

WHEN YOU VISIT A PRIEST, PLEASE REMEMBER...

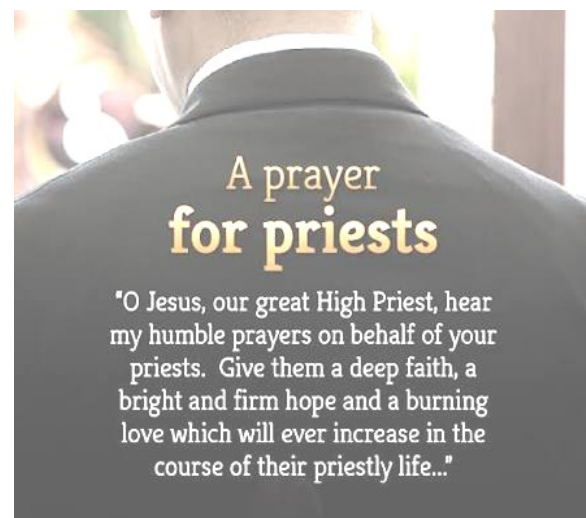
. . . that a priest isn't married, nor will he have a family of his own. No wife, no children. His family is his parishioners. He is a spiritual father in faith to the community he serves. His future is in celebrating the Eucharist at mass every day, listening to confessions, anointing the sick, serving those who come to him for help.

A priest may serve a parish only for a minimum of five to seven years. After that he may be transferred to another parish or assigned a different role in the Church. He relies on his team of volunteers, staff and the lay faithful. Don't expect him to be there all the time for you.

When you give money to the Church, you may be surprised to know that the money isn't for him because no priest earns a fixed salary. They receive a stipend to meet their basic expenses of food, clothing and travel. They save every penny to go for a vacation and much of the money is gifted by friends, relatives and well wishers as they don't get paid leave like the rest of us who work. While we work for a fixed amount of hours with two days off a week, priests are expected to be on stand by 24/7. So don't be angry if they don't respond to you when you need them. They are humans as well with the same frailty as us.

If you hear anyone speaking badly about a particular priest, please correct that person and don't engage in idle gossip without knowing the facts. Remember that they are alone and at times would need company. Pay attention to their emotional, physical and mental needs. Accompany them if needed or offer a helping hand or even a lift.

It's not easy to go out alone especially in dangerous neighbourhoods for counselling or even anointing someone on their death bed. If someone comes to them at such an hour for help, they have to get up from their deep sleep and still be expected to celebrate Mass in the morning. Who is there for them when they are ill or have emergencies in the middle of the night? Yet they are required to perform their duties because if not them, who?



Remember their birthdays, ordination anniversaries and important events in their lives. Celebrate with them, cry with them. Offer a shoulder to lean on. If they fall, don't judge or criticize. Lift them up and help them on their journey in life. Don't be offended if they don't live up to your expectations. No priest is perfect.

So take care of your priests, remember the ones who baptized, confirmed, married and anointed you. The ones who offer masses for your intentions and pray for you. May God bless our priests in Jesus name, our eternal High Priest. Amen.



Archdiocese of Adelaide

MATER CHRISTI PARISH

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PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

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Ms Rita Griffante & Ms Lucia Raybould
Parish Office Staff

MASSES SCHEDULE

Weekdays
8:15am—Monday—Friday
Saturday
8:00am—Italian
4:30pm—Spanish (Ant Sunday Mass)
6:00pm—English (Ant Sunday Mass)
Sundays
9:00am—English
10:30am—Italian
6:00pm—English
3:00pm—Albanian—2nd Sun
3:00pm—Filipino—3rd Sun
Baptism—11:45am—Sunday
Confession—8:30-9:00am—Saturday
Adoration—7:00pm—Saturday



"Jesus Christ is the one who abides the heights of heaven, who walks on the wings of the wind and whose eyes measure the earth. He is God. But he is almost afraid to show it and seems intent to show only his humanity so as to make his clemency known."

John B. Scalabrini, Pastoral Letter, 16.2.1878

17th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR A — July 26, 2026

CHRIST'S PRICELESS TREASURE



We are given three parables in our gospel today. They are: the Parables of the search of treasures buried in the field, the pearl of great price and the dragnet.

Today we are encouraged to choose the real treasure. The joy over the found treasure of the Kingdom and the pearl of great price enable us to sell everything to get these two loveliest things. When we talk about a parable, biblical scholars would say that this talks about the

Kingdom of God – what it is all about and how does it happen. But these search for a "treasure buried in the field" and for a "pearl of great price" have led many souls go astray. How many persons, homes and relationships have been shattered because of money and greed? How many people have sold their principles, their bodies and their very souls for money?

If we neglect the spiritual aspect in our search for the material, we end up with what Mahatma Gandhi calls 'sins of the world': wealth without work, knowledge without character, science without humanity, worship without sacrifice, politics without principles.

This 'sell everything' could mean also being ready to sacrifice whatever it takes to win the happiness in the Kingdom of God. For some saints like St. Francis of Assisi is the most prominent example of selling everything. He literally abandoned all the earthly possessions and even the Lord asked him to become a beggar and this gave him joy in doing so.

So if we make the right choice of choosing God's kingdom and His friendship, then we become happy because we know that God loves us so much. Again and again the Bible reminds us that we will find the pearl of great value and the hidden treasure only in God.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1st Reading — 1Kings 3:5, 7-12

From the first book of Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, ‘Ask what you would like me to give you.’ Solomon replied, ‘Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?’ It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. ‘Since you have asked for this’ the Lord said ‘and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.’

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

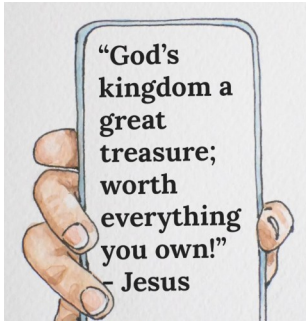
R: Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. R.

Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. R.

That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. R.

Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. R.



2nd Reading — Rom 8: 28-30

From the letter of Paul to the Romans.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The Word of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel — Mt 13: 44-52

From the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. ‘Have you understood all this?’ They said, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.

The Gospel of the Lord.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

National Census — Tuesday 11 August 2026

Every five years, the Australian Bureau of Statistics counts every person and household in Australia. The census form asks questions about your age, country of birth, cultural background, living situation, work and education. The census data is used by the government and others to inform decisions about transport, schools, health care, infrastructure and business. It also helps plan local services for individuals, families and communities. From an Archdiocesan perspective it is important that you identify yourself as Catholic in the census. This information contributes to the parish social profiles and assists with pastoral planning for the future. Your assistance is appreciated.

Vocation Holy Hour

On Tuesday 4 August 2026 | 6pm | St Francis Xavier’s Cathedral as part of National Vocations Awareness Week, the Vocations Office warmly invites you to gather in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for a Holy Hour dedicated to vocations in the Archdiocese of Adelaide. Please join us as we give thanks to Our Lord and pray that He may guide each of us in discerning what God is asking of us today. Light refreshments, including hot chocolate and cookies, will be served after the Holy Hour in the Cathedral Hall.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is recognised as an international private association of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life within the Vatican. It is a synodal movement dedicated to the renewal of our Catholic church through empowering couples and priests to live fully intimate and responsible relationships. Our church today has the belief that marriage and holy orders are sacraments of relationship and that we are called as couples and priests to be a living sign of God's love to the world, and to love one another as Jesus loves us all. Worldwide Marriage Encounter has a live- out weekend planned at Antonio School, 7-8 Nov. More details are available on the website at *Worldwide Marriage Encounter - Australia*. Please consider booking into a weekend to nurture and grow your relationship with your spouse.

PARISH NOTICE

Next Sunday 2ND August 2026 – Feast in honour of “MADONNA DELLA LIBERA” during the 10:30AM Italian Mass requested by the prayer group of St. PADRE PIO OF PIETRELCINA.

La devozione è legata a eventi miracolosi, in particolare la liberazione del paese dall'epidemia di colera del 3 dicembre 1854. Ancora oggi, la comunità pietrelcinese festeggia solennemente la Vergine la prima domenica di agosto e ogni anno il 3 dicembre.



PARISH CALENDAR

Sat 25/07	4:30 PM	Mass in Spanish
	6:00 PM	English Mass
Sun 26/07	9:00 AM	Nikoll Ducaj, Immaculada Postrano, A Theodore, Barbara Condelli, Vincenzo Peitrafesa, Fathima Mary & M Sebastian, Giovanni Martino
	10:30 AM	Salvatore, Antonietta, Pasquale, Antonia, Antonio Giuseppe, Ashley, Vincenzo, Giuseppe {COLUCCIO}, Giuseppe Andretti, Stella Pirrotta, Giuseppe, Maria Francesca, Francesco {MUSCARA}, Filippo Consolato, Giovanni, Annunciata & Tony {CICCONE} Marco Bartemucci
	6:00 PM	English Mass
Mon 27/07	8:15 AM	Guido Di Fabio
	7:00 PM	Mass in Spanish
Tue 28/07	8:15 AM	Italian Mass
	7:00 PM	Memorial (Alfonso Zollo)
Wed 29/07	8:15 AM	Sts. Martha, Mary & Lazarus
Thu 30/07	8:15 AM	English Mass
Fri 31/07	8:15 AM	English Mass
Sat 01/08	8:00 AM	Italian Mass

MINISTRY ROSTERS

July 26, 2026	Lectors	EOCM
6:00pm (Sat)	Rozelle Macalincag Reanne Macalincag	Phil Della Pietra Rosa Mazzone
9:00am	Elaine George Maria Boccaccio	Rosa Brunello Teresa Candeloro
10:30am Italian	Maria Bigolin Comitato S. Ana	Cecilia Mazzone G & L Farinola
6:00pm	Lina Jose Daniel Guglielmin	Teresa Cimmino Ludwina Tan

Aug 02, 2026	Lectors	EOCM
6:00pm (Sat)	Teresa Jimenea Rozelle Macalincag	Tomas Jimenea Jenny DeGennaro
9:00am	Beena Theodore Christine Theodore	Charles Zammit Rosa Brunello
10:30am Italian	Santa Cirillo Cecilia Mazzone	T Pecaj, N Santo Franca Colangelo
6:00pm	Niniane Ortiz Angela Ocares	Rosemary Velardo Jorge Contreras

COLLECTION (19/07/26)

1st Collection	2nd Collection	Special Collection	Total
\$2,342.00	\$2,571.00		\$4,913.00